

Expéditeur : le BUREAU INTERNATIONAL

**PCT**

NOTIFICATION DE TRANSMISSION DE COPIES  
DE LA TRADUCTION DU RAPPORT D'EXAMEN  
PRÉLIMINAIRE INTERNATIONAL  
SUR LA BREVETABILITÉ (CHAPITRE I OU CHAPITRE II)  
DU TRAITE DE COOPERATION EN MATIERE DE BREVETS

(règles 44bis.3.c) et 72.2 du PCT)

**BREVET**  
Destinataire  
- 6 MAR. 2006  
POULIN, Gérard  
BREVATOME  
3, rue du Docteur Lancereaux  
F-75008 PARIS  
FRANCE

Date d'expédition (jour/mois/année) 02 mars 2006 (02.03.2006)	
Référence du dossier du déposant ou du mandataire B14303.3 DB	<b>NOTIFICATION IMPORTANTE</b>
Demande internationale n° PCT/FR2004/050109	Date du dépôt international (jour/mois/année) 16 mars 2004 (16.03.2004)
Déposant	COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE etc

**1. Transmission de la traduction au déposant.**

- ☒ Le Bureau international transmet ci-joint copie de la traduction en langue anglaise du rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre I).
- ☐ Le Bureau international transmet ci-joint copie de la traduction en langue anglaise du rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre II).

**2. Transmission d'une copie de la traduction aux offices désignés ou élus.**

Le Bureau international notifie au déposant qu'une copie de cette traduction a été transmise aux offices désignés ou élus suivants qui exigent la traduction en question:

Aucun

Les offices désignés ou élus suivants ayant renoncé à l'exigence selon laquelle la transmission doit être effectuée à cette date recevront une copie de cette traduction du Bureau international seulement à leur demande:

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Il est rappelé au déposant que, lorsqu'une traduction de la demande internationale doit être remise à un office élu, cette traduction doit comporter la traduction de toute annexe du rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre II).

Il appartient au déposant d'établir la traduction en question et de la remettre directement à chaque office élu intéressé dans le délai applicable (règle 74.1). Voir le volume II du Guide du déposant du PCT pour de plus amples renseignements.

Bureau international de l'OMPI 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Genève 20, Suisse	Fonctionnaire autorisé Beate Giffo-Schmitt
n° de télécopieur+41 22 740 14 35	n° de télécopieur+41 22 338 87 20

# TRAITÉ DE COOPÉRATION EN MATIÈRE DE BREVETS

## PCT

### RAPPORT PRÉLIMINAIRE INTERNATIONAL SUR LA BREVETABILITÉ

(chapitre I du Traité de coopération en matière de brevets)

(règle 44bis du PCT)

Référence du dossier du déposant ou du mandataire B14303.3 DB	POUR SUITE À DONNER		Voir le point 4 ci-dessous
Demande internationale no. PCT/FR2004/050109	Date du dépôt international (jour/mois/année) 16 March 2004 (16.03.2004)	Date de priorité (jour/mois/année) 18 March 2003 (18.03.2003)	
Classification internationale des brevets (8 <sup>e</sup> édition, sauf indication d'une #dition ant#rieure) Voir les informations pertinentes dans le formulaire PCT/ISA/237			
Déposant COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE			

1. Le présent rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre I) est établi par le Bureau international au nom de l'administration chargée de la recherche internationale selon la règle 44bis.1.a).

2. Ce RAPPORT comprend un total de 5 feuilles, y compris la présente feuille de couverture.

Dans les feuilles jointes, toute référence à l'opinion écrite de l'administration chargée de la recherche internationale doit être entendue, à la place, comme une référence au rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre I).

3. Le présent rapport contient des indications relatives aux points suivants :

- |                                     |               |   |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° I    | Base de l'opinion   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° II   | Priorité  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Cadre n° III  | Absence de formulation d'opinion quant à la nouveauté, l'activité inventive et la possibilité d'application industrielle  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Cadre n° IV   | Absence d'unité de l'invention  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° V    | Déclaration motivée selon l'article 35.2) quant à la nouveauté, l'activité inventive et la possibilité d'application industrielle; citations et explications à l'appui de cette déclaration |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Cadre n° VI   | Certains documents cités  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Cadre n° VII  | Certaines irrégularités relevées dans la demande internationale   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Cadre n° VIII | Certaines observations relatives à la demande internationale  |

4. Le Bureau international communiquera le présent rapport aux offices désignés conformément aux règles 44bis.3.c) et 93bis.1 mais pas avant l'expiration du délai de 30 mois à compter de la date de priorité (règle 44bis.2), sauf si le déposant a présenté une requête expresse à cet égard en vertu de l'article 23.2).

Date d'établissement du présent rapport 21 February 2006 (21.02.2006)	
Bureau international de l'OMPI 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland no de télécopieur +41 22 740 14 35	Fonctionnaire autorisé  Beate Giffo-Schmitt no de téléphone : +41 22 338 87 20

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

**Translation**

## PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

**B14303.3 DB**

**FOR FURTHER ACTION**

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

**PCT/FR2004/050109**

International filing date (day/month/year)

**16.03.2004**

Priority date (day/month/year)

**18.03.2003**

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

**COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE**

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA 220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA 220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA 220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA EP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/FR2004/050109

Box No. 1

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language  
\_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
  - a. type of material  
☐ a sequence listing  
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
  - b. format of material  
☐ in written format  
☐ in computer readable form
  - c. time of filing/furnishing  
☐ contained in the international application as filed.  
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.  
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/FR2004/050109

Box No. II

Priority

1. ☒ The following document has not yet been furnished:

☒ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43*bis*.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date is the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43*bis*.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/FR2004/050109

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
<b>1. Statement</b>			
Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
<b>2. Citations and explanations:</b>			
<p>Reference is made to the following document:</p> <p>D1: EP O 482 783 A (ICI PLC) 29 April 1992</p> <p><b>Novelty</b></p> <p>A fuel cell and its manufacturing process having a membrane which consists of a tissue whose web fibres are continuous fibres in insulating electrical material and whose wool fibres are alternatively fibres in insulating material and fibres in electric conductive material, to form respectively insulating zones and conductive zones, have not been described in any cited document. Therefore, the subject matter of claims 1 and 4 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).</p> <p><b>Inventive step</b></p> <p>Document D1, considered as representing the nearest prior art, discloses (cf. column 1, lines 18-27) a membrane compound consisting of one or several fields of an ionic conductor and one or several fields of an electronic conductor, whereby the subject matter of claim 1 differs in that the membrane consists of a tissue whose web fibres are continuous fibres in insulating electric material and whose wool fibres are alternatively fibres in insulating material and fibres in electric conductor material, to form respectively insulating zones and conductive zones (cf. claim 1).</p> <p>Therefore, the problem which the present invention proposes to solve can be considered as simplifying the manufacture of a plain fuel cell, increase its performance and its voltage.</p> <p>Therefore, it is not obvious to a person skilled in the art to understand the subject matter of claims 1 to 4 since there is no indication in the cited prior art nor in the general knowledge of a person skilled in the art to apply such a solution to the problem cited above.</p> <p>The solution of this problem proposed in claims 1 and 4 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).</p> <p>Therefore, dependent claims 2, 3 and 5 meet also, as such, the PCT requirements in respect of novelty and inventive step.</p> <p><b>Possibility of industrial application.</b></p> <p>The subject matter object of the claims is considered as industrially applicable and thereby meeting the requirements stipulated in PCT Article 33(4).</p>			